## Faster, easier, more economical... INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS OFFERS NEW ONLINE SERVICES FOR EMPLOYERS

The Alabama Department of Industrial Relations is now offering employers the option to file unemployment insurance wage and contribution reports online 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Through the Industrial Relations secure Web site, employers may compute, file, and pay unemployment taxes. The online service is efficient and provides an easy payment method for employers that want to use electronic funds transfer. To complete the process, an Unemployment Compensation account number and a Federal Identification Number is needed. Once the account is set-up on the Internet, future contributions filings are merely a matter of updating employee additions or deletions. This application also allows reports for company records to be viewed and printed.

"This Internet service is especially useful for small business employers who can save time and money while complying with state and federal laws," says Phyllis Kennedy, Industrial Relations director.

Registration is available through the Industrial Relations homepage at: <a href="http://dir.alabama.gov/">http://dir.alabama.gov/</a>. After clicking on the "e-gov" icon, help screens will be available for every step of the process. For further assistance, employers may contact Bill Patton at 334-242-8371 or (e-mail) <a href="mailto:BPatton@dir.state.al.us">BPatton@dir.state.al.us</a>.

New employers may also register online. Registration may be completed in a few moments by selecting the same "e-gov" icon and following the prompts. This process provides an Unemployment Compensation account number.

Another new online option allows employers to upload magnetic media records of employees' wage history using the Industrial Relations Web site. This option is one that is particularly attractive for larger employers.

"No changes are necessary, so employers can use their same reporting format without the expense of producing tapes, diskettes, or CDs requiring packaging and postage for mailing," says Kennedy.

The reporting process is private, secure, and immediate. There is no size limit for the number of wages to be transmitted and the service eliminates the possibility of wage information being lost or damaged in the mail. Once the wage information is uploaded, employers receive immediate verification.

Registration for uploading magnetic media records is also available by clicking on the "e-gov" icon, followed by "Alawage Upload." For further assistance, employers may contact Paula Litton at 334-242-8461 or (e-mail) PLitton@dir.state.al.us.